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General and Revenue
Secretariat.

Confidential Branch.

CS 189-37-6

13 March 1939

SUBJECT

Review of events since Government
recognized Congress as a Political
Organization

PREVIOUS REFERENCES.

LATER REFERENCES.

CS 191-38-1

THE HINDU, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1939.

MYSORE REFORMS ENQUIRY

CONGRESS MEMBERS TO RESIGN

WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BANGALORE, Feb. 25.

The Working Committee of the Mysore State Congress met this morning and the sitting is likely to continue the whole of to-day.

It is now fairly certain that the Congress members on the Reforms Committee will resign their seats and decision to this effect will be taken to-night. However, that decision will have to be endorsed by the All-Mysore Congress Committee, which will be meeting to-morrow.

What the future course of action of the Mysore Congress will be, it is too early to say. Having regard to the unsettled state of affairs of the Working Committee of the Indian National Congress and in view of the nearness of the Tripuri Session, it is likely that a definite course of action will be decided upon only after the Tripuri Congress.

Chay Sankar

Rangoli
27/1

MYSORE CONGRESS MEETING

MEMBERS ASKED TO RESIGN

WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

SPECIAL SESSION AT BANGALORE

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BANGALORE, Feb. 26.

The special meeting of the All-Mysore Congress Committee met this morning at Malleswaram to consider the impasse created by the resignation of Mr. Bhupalam Chandrasekara Setty of his membership of the Mysore Congress and his adherence to the Reforms Committee. Mr. C. Siddalingiah, President, occupied the chair.

Before the session commenced, Mr. Siddalingiah hoisted the Mysore National Flag. Sri. Kamaladevi next hoisted the National Flag.

Mr. S. V. Ganesa Rao welcomed the delegates.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Mr. Siddalingiah, addressing the members, referred to the events that occurred since the settlement effected between the Government and the Congress through the efforts of Mr. Vallabhbhai Patel and Mr. Acharya Kripalani and complained that the Government by their many acts did not keep up the spirit of the settlement. In support of his contention, he instanced the prohibitory orders promulgated in Mysore City, the naming of the Central Police Station in Mysore after Mr. Hamilton, etc. The Government, he pointed out, had accepted the recommendations of the Ramesam Committee regarding the Viduraswatha disturbances. One of the recommendations was for the introduction of the Criminal Law Amendment Act. Public feeling, he observed, was outraged and all public opinion was at a discount. The time had come for the Congress, he stated, to declare its goal unequivocally and give a warning to the Government.

When the meeting was in progress, a letter received from Mr. Bhupalam Chandrasekara Setty to the effect that he would abide by the decision of an enquiry committee to be set up by the All-Mysore Congress Committee, was read at the meeting. Mr. Setty also stated in that letter that, if the decision went against him, he was prepared to resign his membership of the Reforms Committee.

RESOLUTION MOVED

Mr. K. P. Raman of Kolar moved the following resolution on behalf of the Working Committee:

"Whereas the terms of the agreement between the Mysore Congress and the Government of Mysore, arrived at by the mediation of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Acharya Kripalani are being broken by the Government from the very beginning as set out in the resolution passed by this Committee at its previous session, whereas the request of the Mysore Congress in consonance with the said agreement made with the utmost goodwill and co-operation is being continuously rejected by the Government of Mysore and whereas by refusing to appoint on the Reforms Committee the chosen representative of the Mysore Congress, the Government have violated one of the important terms of the agreement relating to the right of the Congress to have its representatives in that Committee, the All-Mysore Congress Committee hereby declares with regret that the Government are solely responsible for breaking and violating the terms of the agreement between the Government and the Congress. This Committee, while approving the resolution of the Working Committee directing the Congress representatives in the Reforms Committee to abstain from attending meetings of that Committee, hereby resolves that such representatives shall henceforth cease to be members of the Reforms Committee altogether.

"This Committee further resolves that intense propaganda on strictly non-violent lines be carried on all over the State on immediate establishment of Responsible Government under the aegis of H. H. the Maharaja, that constructive programme of work, in particular, anti-drink propaganda, be vigorously carried on all over the State, that where conditions are helpful, picketing be carried on, on strictly peaceful non-violent lines, and finally since the Government are persistently ignoring the request of the Mysore Congress and have made it clear that they do not intend to carry out the terms of the Agreement, this Committee resolves that, as a mark of protest against such attitude on the part of the Government, the Congress members, serving on all public bodies such as the Legislative Council, Assembly, District Boards and Municipalities, shall forthwith resign ceasing to be members thereof any longer."

Discussion on the resolution was not over, when the meeting adjourned to meet again at 3-30 p.m.

Submitted, with the resolution, as passed, does not differ from the one printed in the Hindu. I enclose the typed sheet I passed through a pressman.

As per Govt Order last May on the subject, it is for consideration if a communication is to issue setting forth the Govt view.

Chag Pantay)

A. I think we may do this. (Rampas)

Dewan)

Md 27/2

Md 27/2

Md 27/2

Md 27/2

Md 27/2

Md 27/2



Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

C.D. 8-4-39

I had a discussion with the
publicity office. I think we can
wait till the Am A. M. C. C. send
us a copy of the resolution &
passed by them finally before
taking further action.

1-8-39

A copy of the report of
the proceedings of the A.M.C.C.
is subd.

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9/10

The A-M.C.C. has now sent us a
copy of the resolution. The
D.M. has enclosed a true copy of
the resolution. Most of the allegations
made in the resolution are not true.
We already advised the publicity
office may issue a communique
setting forth the ~~correct~~ view of
case.

P.O.
W.C.

10/3
9-3-39

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips,
the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

Draft press communique is enclosed.

I have not touched on the question
of "seven" and "three" members

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

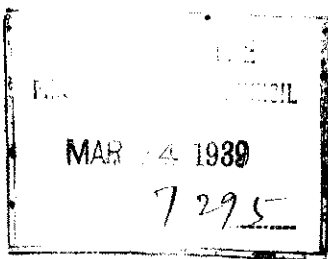
as there is a reference to "seven" members in the Agreement, as the first members re-formed the Legislative Reform Committee after re-formation after the Agreement.

They were, after the Raynolds drama and different meanings read into a document, I would not take the responsibility of underlining one interpretation in preference to the other.

Chapman

Plaus
10/31





DEWNN'S OFF

11 MAR 1939

No. 6659

CS 189-37

Drop Communication

note.
For after order.

Number }
Lum

M
13/3/39

I understand that this
is to issue not as a Press
'communication' but as a note
of the Publicity officer to be
used by the Press without
acknowledgment

Recd

16/3/39

Belli as a note

from P.O. - on the

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compensation -

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A.P.D. comp. was

also on him

P.O. may deal with it

as a note book.

M

16-3-39

Chief Secy

P.O.

Please speak to M

me.

16/3

not a copy of the

15/3

C.B.)

From recent reports of the speeches and activities of certain members of the Mysore State Congress and their partisans ^{an} Government have reason to infer that active propaganda is being carried on to mislead the masses into believing that Government have not kept up to the terms of some pledges given by them. Frequent reference has been made by these persons to the "Agreement" between the Mysore State Congress and the Government, which is alleged to have been broken by the latter. It is presumed that the agreement referred to is the declaration of policy that was enunciated by Government in their order No. 3862-3931/C.B. dated 17th May 1938. In this order, among other matters Government agreed to recognise the Mysore State Congress as a political organisation in view of the understanding that that body was prepared to co-operate with the Government in the task of constitutional reform, that ^{it} ~~the~~ would act as a political party formed within the State and composed of subjects of His Highness, and that ^{it} ~~they~~ intended to carry on their work in a peaceful and constitutional manner. The following extract from the same order makes clear the intentions of Govt. in regard to the participation of political organizations in the task of formulating proposals for introducing Constitutional Reforms in the State:-

"The Government desire that all political organizations within the State should have the fullest opportunity to m

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1. The "C" in "C" is not a "C" in "C" but a "C" in "C".

make constructive proposals in the Committee on Constitutional Reforms, and are, therefore, pleased to add to the members of that Committee three new members to be selected by the Mysore State Congress. They confirm explicitly, as they have previously made clear and as is implied in the Committee's terms of reference, that it is open to the Committee to discuss and recommend any plan for constitutional reform, including a plan for responsible government under the aegis of His Highness the Maharaja."

The Government Order referred to was a genuine attempt on the part of the Government to remove misconceptions and to clearly enunciate the policy which they had been pursuing all along, and would pursue thereafter, of fully availing themselves of the services and co-operation of all sections of His Highness's loyal subjects.

Government desire to take this opportunity of assuring the public that at no time has there been any intention on the part of Government to go back on the principles and policy enunciated in their order dated 17th May 1938. The allegation that Government have not acted up to their declarations appears to have been made with particular reference to the refusal by Government to comply with a request made by the President of the Mysore State Congress that Mr. Bhoopalam Chandrasekhara Chetty, one of the members of the Constitutional Reforms Committee, should be removed from that Committee on the ground of his having ceased to be a member of the Congress and that another person nominated by the Congress Party should be appointed to the Committee instead. From the terms of the

the G.O. dated 17th May 1938, extracted above, it is seen that while recognising the Mysore State Congress as a political organisation, Government agreed "to add to the members of the Constitutional Reforms Committee three new members to be selected by the Congress".

Mr. Bhoopalam Chandrasekhara Chetty was not one of the three members who were accordingly added to the Committee at the instance of the Congress Party, but was one of those who had been appointed to that body much earlier by Government themselves when the Committee was originally constituted. He did not ~~send~~ in any resignation of his membership on the Committee and the mere fact that he was adopted by the Mysore Congress Party as one of their representatives on the Committee and that he subsequently ceased to be a member of that party could not furnish a sufficient ground for his removal from the Committee. In the circumstances Government could not in fairness compel Mr. Chandrasekhara Chetty to resign and comply with the request of the Congress Party.

Government regret to note that this incident should have been misrepresented as a breach of pledge on the part of Government and that certain sections of the people should have thought fit to make this an excuse to foment agitation against Government. Government look to all sections of the public and all political parties, including the State Congress to co-operate with them in maintaining the fame name of the State and help in the "inauguration of a new era of progress and

and prosperity in the State" - an ideal which should be as dear to Government as to all loyal subjects of His Highness the Maharaja

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28/3/3
DID MYSORE GOVERNMENT BREAK THE FACT? (10)

A REVIEW OF EVENTS SINCE GOVERNMENT RECOGNISED
CONGRESS AS A POLITICAL ORGANISATION.

(From a Correspondent)

From recent reports of the speeches and activities of certain members of the Mysore State Congress and their partisans I have reason to infer that active propaganda is being carried on to mislead the masses into believing that Government have not kept up to the terms of some pledges given by them. Frequent reference has been made by these persons to "agreement" between the Mysore State Congress and the Government, which goes to have been broken by the latter. It is presumed that the one referred to is the declaration of policy that was enunciated by Government in their order No. 3862-3931/C.B. dated 17th May 1938. In this among other matters, Government agreed to recognise the Mysore Congress as a political organisation in view of the understanding that the body was prepared to co-operate with the Government in the task of constitutional reform, that it would act as a political party formed in the State and composed of subjects of His Highness, and that it would carry on its work in a peaceful and constitutional manner.

An extract from the same order makes clear the intentions of Government in regard to the participation of political organizations in formulating proposals for introducing constitutional reforms.

Government desire that all political organisations within the State should have the fullest opportunity to make constructive proposals in the Committee on Constitutional Reforms, and are, therefore, pleased to add to the members of that Committee three new members to be selected from the State.

Thus it will be seen that at no time has there been any intention on the part of Government to go back on the principles and policy associated in their order dated 17th May 1938. The allegation that Government have not acted up to their declarations appears to have been made with particular reference to the refusal by Government to comply with the request made by the President of the Mysore State Congress that Mr. Bhopalamb Chandrasekhara Chetty, one of the members of the Constitutional Reforms Committee, should be removed from that Committee on the ground of his having ceased to be a member of the Congress and that, another person nominated by the Congress Party should be appointed to the Committee instead. From the terms of the Government Order dated 17th May 1938, extracted above, it is seen that while recognising the Mysore State Congress as a political organisation, Government agreed "to add to the members of the Constitutional Reforms Committee three new members to be selected by the Congress". Mr. Bhopalamb Chandrasekhara Chetty was not one of the three members who were accordingly added to the Committee at the instance of the Congress Party, but was one of those who had been appointed to that body much earlier by Government themselves when the Committee was originally constituted. He did not resign his membership of the Committee and the mere fact that he was adopted by the Mysore Congress Party as one of their representatives on the Committee and that he subsequently ceased to be a member of that party could not furnish a sufficient ground for his removal from the Committee. In the circumstances, Government could not, in fairness, compel Mr. Chandrasekhara Chetty to resign and comply with the request of the Congress Party.

It is a matter for regret that this incident should have been misrepresented as a breach of pledge on the part of Government and that certain sections of the people should have thought fit to make this an issue to foment agitation against Government.

From the recent acceptance of apologies and reinstatement of Congress leaders, it is clear that Government look to all sections of the people and all political parties, including the State Congress, to co-operate with them in maintaining the fair name of the State and help in the inauguration of a new era of progress and prosperity in the State. This ideal which should be as dear to Government as to all loyal subjects of His Highness the Maharaja.

The Government regret to note that in some of the recent speeches made by certain Congressmen and their partisans, reference is frequently made to the Agreement between the Mysore Congress and the Government being broken by the latter. Reference is also made to certain resolution said to have been passed by the All-Mysore Congress Committee -- the Government have not received a copy of the said resolution -- that because of this alleged violation of the Agreement by the Government, Congressmen on the Constitutional Reforms Committee would non-co-operate with the Committee, which has now almost reached the conclusion of its labours.

This attitude has, perhaps, some reference to the resignation from the Congress of one of the members of the Constitutional Reforms Committee, namely, Mr. Bhoopalam Chandrasekhara Chetty, and the letter of the Mysore Congress to the Government dated 4th January, in which it was stated that as Mr. Chetty had ceased

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to be a member of the Congress, the Government might appoint another Congressman who had been elected by the Congress for the purpose. The Government felt that Mr. Chetty did not cease to be a member of the Constitutional Reforms Committee merely for the reason that he has ceased to be a member of the State Congress. Government also did not consider it expedient to make any changes in the Committee when their labours were nearing completion.

Nothing has happened, so far as the Government are aware, to bring in *about the Agreement and its alleged violation* this controversy. So far as the Government are concerned, the situation stands exactly where it did on the 17th May *in its opinion,* 1938, and nothing [^] has happened to disturb the spirit with which the State Congress were [^] prepared to co-operate with the Government in the task of constitutional reform and ~~that they~~

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(3)

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intended to carry on their work in a peaceful and constitutional manner, as befitting a party which has declared its aim to be the attainment of responsible government under the aegis of His Highness the Maharaja.

In view of the planned resignations from the constitutional bodies in the State by Congress, and especially in view of the tone and temper of the speeches of some of the State Congress members, Government consider it necessary to reiterate that any suspicion that they have violated the Agreement is not borne out by facts, and that they still look to all political parties, including the Congress, to help in the "inauguration of a new era of progress and prosperity in the State", -- an ideal which has been consistently kept in view since 17th May 1938, when the Government declared their policy in Government Order No. 3862-3931/C.B.

df
10/5